



Department of Energy
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 14, 1998

TO: Emilio Iranzo, Eduardo Sollet, Chet Richmond, George Voelz, José Gutiérrez, and Asuncion Espinosa

FROM: Barrett Fountos *BF*

SUBJECT: Status Report on Action Items and Transmittal of Copies of Historical Documents to the Palomares Program Review

One of my action items was to determine the status of the 1993 Pu resuspension studies performed by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories (LLNL). I have received permission to pay Dr. Joseph Shinn, the LLNL Project Manager, to analyze the 25 samples and prepare a report by June 5, 1998. I will distribute the report to the panel as soon as I receive it.

A second action item was to obtain aerial photographs of the site to facilitate locating the burial pits. Although I have not found any photographs of the site at DOE, the Defense Intelligence Agency has found some declassified intelligence satellite photos from 1968 and will provide them to me. If they have current photos of the site and if they can be declassified in time for the panel, I will forward them to the panel. However, I am not sure whether any photos currently exist.

A third action item was to obtain additional information which might be useful to the panel. I called John Taschner of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) who provided a lot of historical information. He highlighted sections of importance. I have marked the text so that these sections will be identified on the photocopies by marginal lines. The information consists of:

- Palomares Summary Report. Field Command, Defense Nuclear Agency, Technology and Analysis Directorate, Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico (undated, but appears post 1972);
- Palomares Broken Arrow -- Report on Medical Follow-up Program. Department of the Air Force, Headquarters Air Force Logistics Command, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, 1/16/68;
- Plutonium Deposition Registry Board, Headquarters Air Force Logistics Command, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, 10/27-28/66;
- Plutonium Deposition Registry Board, Headquarters Air Force Logistics Command, Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, 10/26-28/66;



- Odland, L.T., et al. Bioassay Experiences in Support of Field Operations Associated with Widespread Dispersion of Plutonium.

In addition, Dr. Paul Seligman, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Studies, gave me a copy of an article in Health Physics which describes the permissible levels of Pu in food for distribution to other countries.

I hope that this information will be helpful to the panel.

Enclosures

cc w/o enclosures:

Marshall Carter-Tripp, U.S. Embassy, Madrid